



Los Angeles County Regional Park And Open Space District

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April 15, 2014

The Honorable Board of Directors
County of Los Angeles
Regional Park and Open Space District
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Directors:

**APPROVE A REVISED PLAN OF EXPENDITURE AND
AN ALTERNATIVE PLAN FOR EXPENDITURE FOR
THE SAFE NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS PROPOSITIONS OF 1992 AND 1996
AND APPROVE TRANSFER OF PER PARCEL DISCRETIONARY FUNDS OF THE SAFE
NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS PROPOSITION OF 1992 ALLOCATED TO THE CITY OF LOS
ANGELES FOR THE ECHO PARK LAKE RESTROOM RENOVATION AND GRIFFITH PARK
RIVERSIDE DRIVE AREA IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS
(FIRST AND THIRD DISTRICTS)
(3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

Approval of the recommended actions will transfer unspent allocation of \$103,557.33 in Specified Funds allocated to the completed Hollywood Recreation Center Redevelopment Project under the Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1992 to the Echo Park Lake Restroom Renovation Project, and will transfer unspent allocations of \$38,910.53 in Specified Funds allocated to the completed Griffith Park Traveltown Locomotive Pavilion Project under the Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996 and \$635,736.29 in Per Parcel Discretionary Funds allocated to the completed Runyon Canyon Park Visitors Center Project under the Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1992, for a total amount of \$674,646.82, to the Griffith Park Riverside Drive Area Improvement Project.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

1. Find the City of Los Angeles' proposed Echo Park Lake Restroom Renovation Project and Griffith Park Riverside Drive Area Improvement Project categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act because the projects involve restoration of deteriorated or damaged structures, replacement of existing facilities involving negligible or no expansion of capacity,

construction of small new structures, and minor alterations in the condition of land; and for the reasons stated herein and the reasons reflected in the record of the projects.

2. Approve a Revised Plan of Expenditure to transfer \$103,557.33 in Specified Funds allocated to the completed Hollywood Recreation Center Redevelopment Project under Section(8), Subsection (a), Paragraph(2), Item(V.viii) of the Los Angeles County Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1992 to the proposed Echo Park Lake Restroom Renovation Project.
3. Approve an Alternative Plan for Expenditure to transfer \$38,910.53 in Specified Funds allocated to the completed Griffith Park Traveltown Locomotive Pavilion Project under Section(3), Subsection (c), Paragraph(2), Item(FF.vi) of the Los Angeles County Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996 to the proposed Griffith Park Riverside Drive Area Improvement Project.
4. Approve the transfer of Per Parcel Discretionary Funds in the amount of \$635,736.29, allocated to the City of Los Angeles under Section(8), Subsection(b), Paragraph(1) of the Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996, from the completed Runyon Canyon Park Visitors Center Project to the proposed Griffith Park Riverside Drive Area Improvement Project.
5. Authorize the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation, in his capacity as Director of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District, to award grants in the amounts of \$103,557.33 and \$674,646.82, respectively, to the City of Los Angeles for the proposed Echo Park Lake Restroom Renovation Project and Griffith Park Riverside Drive Area Improvement Project when applicable conditions have been met, and to administer the grants as of the date of award and pursuant to guidelines in the Procedural Guide for Specified, Per Parcel, and Excess Funds Projects.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approval of the recommended actions will allow the City of Los Angeles (City) to transfer \$103,557.33 in Specified Funds allocated to the completed Hollywood Recreation Center Redevelopment Project under Section(8), Subsection(a), Paragraph(2), Item(V.viii) of the Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1992 (1992 Proposition) to the proposed Echo Park Lake Restroom Renovation Project; and transfer \$38,910.53 in Specified Funds allocated to the completed Griffith Park Traveltown Locomotive Pavilion Project under Section(3), Subsection(c), Paragraph(2), Item(FF.vi) of the Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996 (1996 Proposition), and \$635,736.29 in Per Parcel Discretionary Funds allocated to the completed Runyon Canyon Park Visitors Center Project under Section(8), Subsection(b), Paragraph(1) of the Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1992, for a total amount of \$674,646.82, to the proposed Griffith Park Riverside Drive Area Improvement Project.

The Hollywood Recreation Center Redevelopment Project was originally funded with \$469,525.41 in Specified 1992 Proposition Funds; and the scope of work included site redevelopment, including irrigation, turfing, landscaping, lighting, game courts improvements, sports field improvements, handicap access modifications, and recreation center/community building refurbishments. The project was completed for \$365,968.08. The City requests an alternative plan for expenditure to transfer the unspent allocation of \$103,557.33 to the proposed Echo Park Lake Restroom Renovation Project, located at 751 Echo Park Avenue in Los Angeles, for the renovation of the restroom facilities.

The Griffith Park Traveltown Locomotive Pavilion Project was originally funded with \$1,900,000.00 in Specified 1996 Proposition Funds; and the scope of work included the development and

rehabilitation of the Travel Town Locomotive Pavilion, located in Griffith Park. Only \$1,861,089.47 in Specified 1996 Proposition Funds was expended, and the project was completed under budget.

The Runyon Canyon Park Visitors Center Project was originally funded with \$1,000,000.00 in Per Parcel 1992 Proposition Funds; and the scope of work included the installation of metal fences, gates, and new electric and water meters, and provided related electrical work at the Mulholland entrance. Only \$139,263.71 in Per Parcel 1992 Proposition Funds was expended, and the project was completed under budget. A portion of the unspent funding, in the amount of \$225,000.00, was reallocated to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) and used for the completed La Rocha Acquisition Project, approved in 2011 under a separate Board Action.

The City now requests an alternative plan for expenditure to transfer the unspent allocations of \$38,910.53 from the Griffith Park Traveltown Locomotive Pavilion Project and \$635,736.29 from the Runyon Canyon Park Visitors Center Project to Griffith Park Riverside Drive Area Improvement Project, located at 3401 Riverside Drive in Los Angeles, for the removal and replacement of existing playground equipment, and the installation of pathways and American with Disabilities Act improvements.

It is also recommended, that the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation (Director), in his capacity as Director of the Regional Park and Open Space District, be authorized to award grants to the City of Los Angeles when applicable conditions have been met, such as grantee qualifications, consistency between the project and the 1992 Proposition and 1996 Proposition requirements, grantee agreement with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) project requirements, and to administer the grants under procedures previously approved by the Board.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The recommended actions further the Board-approved Countywide Strategic Plan Goal of Operational Effectiveness (Goal 1), by allowing the City of Los Angeles to use reallocated grant funds to renovate restroom facilities at Echo Park Lake in the First Supervisorial District and to install new playground equipment at the Riverside Drive Area of Griffith Park in the Third Supervisorial District.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The recommended actions further the Board-approved Countywide Strategic Plan Goal of Operational Effectiveness (Goal 1), by allowing the City of Los Angeles to use reallocated grant funds to renovate restroom facilities at Echo Park Lake in the First Supervisorial District and to install new playground equipment at the Riverside Drive Area of Griffith Park in the Third Supervisorial District.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The 1992 and 1996 Propositions set forth deadlines for agencies to encumber funds allocated to them in the Proposition, and further set forth procedures for agencies to request reallocation of those funds, as follows:

Specified Funds - 1992 Proposition

The 1992 Proposition provides funding for projects that are specified in the measure, and identifies a procedure for revision of those projects prior to July 1, 1998. The procedure remains the method by which specified project funds may be approved by the Board for other uses. An agency may submit

a revised plan of expenditure to use the funds for a project that is consistent with the purposes of the 1992 Proposition after the agency's governing body considers and approves the revision of the project at a public meeting.

Specified Funds - 1996 Proposition

Under the provisions of Section(5), Subsection(e) of the 1996 Proposition, an alternative plan for expenditure must be submitted and approved to commit the funds allocated to specified projects between June 30, 2003 and June 30, 2004. As of July 1, 2004, uncommitted specified project funds are subject to allocation to other projects by the Board.

If the Board denies the recommended actions, the City may either expend the funds for the uses originally specified, request the Board's approval to fund different projects with the funds, or relinquish its claim to the funds.

On June 2, 2009, the Board approved the Procedural Guide to govern the administration of Regional Park and Open Space District (RPOSD) grants. The Procedural Guide will appropriately govern the administration of the recommended additional grants as well.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

All public agency projects funded by RPOSD are required to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) as a condition of the grant. The lead agency is responsible for preparing the appropriate environmental documentation for the project. The City is the lead agency for both the proposed Echo Park Lake Restroom Renovation Project and the proposed Griffith Park Riverside Drive Area Improvement Project.

The proposed Echo Park Lake Restroom Renovation Project and proposed Griffith Park Riverside Drive Area Improvement Project are categorically exempt from CEQA. The projects, which consist of renovation of restroom facilities, replacement of existing playground equipment, and installation of pathways and American with Disabilities Act improvements, are within certain classes of projects that have been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment in that they meet the criteria set forth in Sections 15301(d), 15302(c), 15303(e), and 15304(a) of the State CEQA Guidelines, and Classes 1(c), 2(e), 3(b), and 4(a) of the County's Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, Appendix G, because the projects involve restoration of deteriorated or damaged structures, replacement of existing facilities involving negligible or no expansion of capacity, construction of small new structures, and minor alterations in the condition of land.

The proposed projects include no expansion of an existing use, meaning structures replaced will be located on the same site as existing structures and will have the same purpose and capacity, and the proposed projects will not involve the removal of healthy, mature, or scenic trees. Additionally, the proposed projects are not in a sensitive environment, and there are no cumulative impacts, unusual circumstances, or other limiting factors that would make the exemption inapplicable based on the proposed projects records.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

The Grant Project Agreements will be entered into and administered under authority delegated to the Director and pursuant to the Procedural Guide approved by the Board in 2009. The Grant Project

Agreements will be approved as to form by County Counsel.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

These actions will have no impact on any other projects funded through RPOSD, but are required so that the City may utilize the unspent allocations on the proposed projects.

CONCLUSION

Please instruct the Executive Officer-Clerk of the Board to return one adopted copy of this action to the Chief Executive Office, Facilities and Asset Management Division, and one adopted copy to the Department of Parks and Recreation.

Respectfully submitted,



RUSS GUINEY

Director

RG:JB:WRO:tb

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
Chief Executive Office